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THE TRUST COMPANY CORNER

Corner.

A History from Earliest Times

1638-1928

By Dean B. Lyman Jr.

NEW HAVEN
The Union & New Haven Trust Company
1928

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Frank Edward Brown

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$4.50 Cattle May 3-1978 PO 8687

This copy No. 228 of
"The Trust Company Corner"
is presented to
Mr. Frank E. Brown

THE TRUST COMPANY CORNER

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ILLUSTRATIONS

The Trust Company Building — *Frontispiece*
Corner of Church and Elm Streets 1928

"The Trust Company Corner" about 1909 — 4

The Union Trust Company Building — 12
1871-1911

The New Haven Trust Company Building — 18
1911

The Union & New Haven Trust Company Building — 24
1911-1928

The New Haven Green from The Trust Company Tower — 38

FOREWORD

The Union & New Haven Trust Company has now completed its new, twelve story bank and office building at the corner of Church and Elm Streets in New Haven. The Trust Company takes this occasion to add a leaf to the written annals of New Haven. In this little volume is presented an account of the development of the land at the corner of Church and Elm Streets from a patch of woodland to the site of a modern skyscraper. It is felt, and sincerely hoped, that this brief history will be of interest to all friends of The Trust Company.

This history begins with the first grant of "The Trust Company Corner" from the proprietors of the town of New Haven to a Mr. Richard Perry about the year 1640—two years after the settlement of the Colony of New Haven. The narrative covers a period of nearly three hundred years down to the present day. The material is presented in two sections. The first of these is a

brief story of what has happened at The Corner from 1638 *to* 1928—*the chief events in the lives of the owners, the changes through which the character of the property passed, and all the most entertaining of the facts that could be found relating to the property. This story is designed to provide a readable account of the main facts in the history of The Corner. The second section gives a year by year summary of important events at The Trust Company Corner and at New Haven. This* Chronological Table *of events includes many details that could not be touched upon in the narrative, and thus forms a valuable supplement to the first section.*

The Union and New Haven Trust Company has made every effort to make this little book a publication which the reader may find worthy of a place on his bookshelf. It is offered to friends of The Company with best wishes for their enjoyment of it.

THE TRUST COMPANY CORNER

Founding of the New Haven Colony

IT was a warm, sun-brightened morning of late August in the year 1637. An Indian brave stepped cautiously from behind a large chestnut tree. He had need to be cautious, for he was a Quinnipiac, and the tribe to which he belonged numbered only about fifty warriors. And were not strange events on foot? Less than a moon ago the powerful Pequot tribe (or rather, what was left of them) had fled across this ground, pursued by a queer race of men with white skins—men who killed with sticks that spoke. What would come of all this? Was his tribe to be persecuted by a more fierce and powerful tribe than the Pequots? Such were the questions in his savage mind. What would he have thought if he could have known that the spot on which he was standing would be occupied in 1928 by a great, twelve story, brick building owned by a group of white men called "The Union & New Haven Trust Company?" Such an event would, of course, have been beyond his imagination. Yet it happened.

From his vantage point by the chestnut tree, he looked forth on a tract of land that was for the most part covered with hardwood trees such as oak, hickory, and chestnut. In the foreground was a swampy area, where many alder bushes grew. The ground to the westward rose in a gentle slope. From the

southeast corner of the swampy area flowed a small stream that made its way southeastwardly to join another stream that emptied into "the Long Water." The wooded slope with the swamp at its foot was the future location of the New Haven Green, and the Long Water was later to be named Long Island Sound, but naturally the Indian could not know this. A squirrel ventured incautiously out upon a bough of a near-by tree. The Indian forgot about the white men and quietly slipped an arrow from his quiver.

Within a few days some of the dreaded white men came across the Long Water in a great canoe with wings and landed at Quinnipiac, which in the Indian tongue means "Long Water Place." But the white men did not want to fight; they wanted to bargain for land. They made signs, for they spoke a strange language. Seven of the white men stayed at Quinnipiac after the Indians had signified their willingness to let the strangers have land. The others went away to bring their comrades.

The white men who came to Quinnipiac were an exploring party from Boston, under the leadership of Theophilus Eaton. They were looking for a site for a commercial city, and they were well pleased with Quinnipiac because it afforded a large and sheltered harbor. Returning to Boston, they told the Rev. Mr. John Davenport and the other colonists who had accompanied them from London in two small ships, that they had found the site for their Colony. On

March 30, 1638, Eaton and Davenport led their fellow colonists to Quinnipiac. Their ship, with about four hundred people aboard, took nearly two weeks to sail from Boston to the Long Water Place. The seven men who had spent the winter in Quinnipiac had dug caves as temporary shelters for the colonists. Those not thus housed built rough shacks and lean-tos. The day after their embarkation was Sunday, April 15, on which day the Rev. Mr. John Davenport preached the first sermon under a large oak tree near the present corner of College and George Streets.

None of the colonists could speak the Quinnipiac dialect. It was several months before Thomas Stanton came down from Boston to act as an interpreter. By his aid a treaty was made with the Indians in November, 1638. Real estate did not command the prices then that it does now. The Indians gave the land on which New Haven now stands in exchange for a treaty by which the colonists agreed to aid them against their enemies. For the sake of good will the white men presented the Indians with a dozen coats of English cloth, a dozen metal spoons, a dozen hatchets, a dozen hoes, two dozen knives, a dozen porringers, and four cases of French knives and scissors. The treaty was made with Momauguin, sachem of the Quinnipiacs, and his counsellors. In December a further purchase of land was made of Montowese, a sachem whose tribe consisted of only about ten men and their families. So New Haven

was founded in peace, not in war and bloodshed. This acquisition of land was the first business transaction in New Haven.

On June 4, 1639, the first political enactment of the new Colony was made. The settlers gathered in the "great Barne" that belonged to Robert Newman, and solemnly agreed that their settlement should be governed in all things by the ancient Mosaic Law of the Scriptures. This was the famous *Fundamental Agreement*. Twelve men were chosen to form the government and the church of the Colony. These men reduced the number of their group to seven men, who were called "the seven pillars" of church and state. This appellation was derived from the scriptural quotation that adorns the New Haven post office: "Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars" (Proverbs, 9: 1). The First Church of New Haven was organized in August of 1639. The civil government was instituted in October, when Theophilus Eaton was chosen governor, with four deputies to assist him in administering the affairs of the court. Records of this court were kept from the time of its formation in 1639. For ten years the records of the town and of the Colony of New Haven were kept together, but from 1649 to 1665 (when the New Haven Colony came unwillingly under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Colony) the records of the town-meetings were kept separately from those of the general court of the Colony.

THE TRUST COMPANY CORNER

About 1909

Northeast Corner of Church and Elm Streets

In 1640 the name of the Colony was changed by order of the court from Quinnipiac to New Haven. Various suppositions as to the reason for the choice of this latter name have been advanced, but nothing definite is known. According to Theophilus Eaton's dream, New Haven was to be a great commercial city. It was for this reason that the site near a fine harbor was chosen, and also that the large central Green was laid out. This is the largest central Green in any city of America. It was laid out by one John Brockett, a surveyor, by Governor Eaton's plan. The land of the town was held in the possession of a proprietors' committee, which had charge of apportioning it to the free planters, according to the amount of taxable estate they declared, and to the number of members in their families. No one could be a "free planter" unless he was a church member, and only free planters were entitled to vote in the town-meetings. The town plot was surveyed and laid out in 1638. A "market place" (the Green) was laid out in the center of the town, surrounding which were eight other squares—one opposite each of the four sides of the central square, and one diagonal to each of the four corners of it. These are referred to as the "Original Nine Squares," while the free planters to whom the land was assigned are known as the "Original Grantees." New Haven was the first town in this country to be laid out according to an organized town plan.

The foregoing skeleton sketch of the founding of New Haven should enable the reader to understand something of the peculiar circumstances under which The Trust Company Corner first became a piece of real estate instead of just a patch of woodland.

First Owner of The Trust Company Corner

THE first volume of the "Colonial Records of New Haven" gives a list of the New Haven proprietors in 1641. Eighth on the list is the name of Richard Perry. The entry shows that he had three people in his family and that he owned an estate of £. 260. As one of the free planters, he was granted a lot of about two and a half acres of land at the corner of the streets now known as Church and Elm. In other words, he was the original grantee of The Trust Company Corner. East of his land was the lot on Elm Street granted to Governor Theophilus Eaton; north of him was the lot granted to Captain Nathaniel Turner, the first military head of the New Haven militia.

Richard Perry's land was just a patch of woodland diagonally across from a swamp, but it was a large patch that would sell for thousands and thousands of dollars today. It included much more land than the present Trust Company Corner. Early deeds did not record foot frontages of property, but by tracing back from deeds in which frontages are given, it was found that his lot fronted about two hundred seventy feet on Elm Street. To find out how far it

extended on Church Street would necessitate the herculean labor of a complete search of the deeds of several properties north of the present Trust Company Corner. This has not been done, but there is good reason to believe that Mr. Perry's land extended on Church Street to, or almost to, the present path of Wall Street.

Who was this Mr. Richard Perry, with whom the history of The Trust Company Corner begins?

We know from the fact that he is called "Mr." that he was a man of social prominence. He is called "Mr." Perry as early as 1639, when the following entry appeared among the proceedings of the court: "Thomas Manchefter, servant to Mr. Perry, being accufed by his mafter for being druncke, and for giving his mafter uncomely language, for which his mafter having given him some correction, the Court (onely) caufed him to be sett in the stocks for a certain time. Nicholas Tamer, servant to the said Mr. Perry, for drunkennefs and abufing his mafter in wordes, was whipped." In 1642 the following entry was made; "Mathew Wilson, for killing a dog of Mr. Perry's willfully and diforderly, fined 20s. for his diforder, and ordered to pay 20s. damage to Mr. Perry." Richard Perry was a son-in-law of Richard Malbon, whose daughter Mary, he had married in England. The Perrys and the Malbons were among the original settlers who had come with Eaton and Davenport in the ship *Hector* from London. Mr.

Malbon was a prominent man in the community, not only serving a number of terms as deputy to the general court of the Colony, but also succeeding Nathaniel Turner as captain of the New Haven military forces. Mr. Perry was chosen secretary to the general court in 1646, being the second to hold that office. In the same year he bought of Mrs. Eaton, the mother of Governor Eaton, "all her land and propriety" in the town. This was a lot on the south side of Grove Street between Church and State Streets. Orange Street was not cut through until over a century later. Mr. Malbon returned to England about 1648. In the following year Mr. Perry sold his "home lott," and in 1650 there are several entries in the records of the town relating to Mr. Perry's attempt to have an attachment on Mr. Malbon's property removed. In one of these entries the fact is mentioned that "Mr Pery and M^{ris} Pery are goeing away." It is probable that they, too, returned to England.

The first recorded deed of The Trust Company Corner was that of Richard Perry's sale of the land. It reads in part as follows: "Richard Perry paſſeth over to Thomas Kimberly, his houſe & barne: & home lott conteyning 2 ac^{r} ½ : . . . and Thomas Kimberly is to have 20$^{s.}$ out of ye rent: Mr. Malbon is to paye for that pt of the barne w^{c}h he hires this yeare." Sherlock Holmes could doubtless have reconstructed the whole appearance of the property

from these few details, but even the humblest Watson can guess some of the implications. Mr. Perry had built a house there which was his dwelling place, for a house is mentioned and the property is spoken of as his "home lott." He had also built a barn, which must have been of good size, for he rented part of it to his father-in-law. The house and barn were undoubtedly of wood, for that material was plentiful to the hands of the colonists who were cutting their homes out of the wilderness. Church and Elm Streets, which bounded the property on the west and south respectively, must have been rutted, dirt cartways, for farm wagons and an occasional horseback rider provided the only "traffic." The house must have been lighted by candles, rush lights, or primitive oil lamps, for other means of illumination were unknown to that period. If there were any street lights at night (and there probably were not), they must have been pine torches, kept alight by members of the watch. These watchmen, armed with flintlocks, ball, and powder, constituted the police force and the army of the town. It must be remembered that the inhabitants of New Haven were for many years in fear of attack, not only by the Indians but by the Dutch, and later by the French and Indians combined.

Richard Perry sold his lot in 1649 to Thomas Kimberley. The latter sold the southern end of the property (at the corner of Church and Elm) in 1668, and the deed conveys "one dwelling house and barn with

the home lot and all the other appurtenances thereunto belonging (which said houſe barn and home lot was formerly in the poſſeſſion of Richard Perry, Planter in New Haven)." It is probable that Mr. Perry kept pigs and poultry at The Trust Company Corner, and that he raised vegetables on his home lot. Horses and cows were scarce in the early days of the Colony, but being a well-to-do man he may have owned some. If he did, the cows were of the red Devon breed that was brought over to New Haven as early as 1638. All of the planters owned geese, which were so numerous as often to constitute a nuisance.

Such is the little that can be ascertained about the first owner of the present Trust Company property, but even this much could not have been learned if it had not been for the remarkable foresight of the leaders of the Colony in causing the town records to be kept from as early as 1639.

Other Seventeenth Century Owners of The Corner

THOMAS KIMBERLEY, the second owner of The Trust Company Corner, like Richard Perry, of whom he bought it, was one of the original settlers of New Haven. Moreover, his son Eleazar is said to have been the first white child born in the new Colony. This child was baptized in November of 1639. Thomas Kimberley's name appears on the list of free planters to whom the first grants of land were made in 1643.

He is listed as having seven persons in his family and possessing an estate of only £. 12. He was admitted a "freeman" and a member of the court in 1639; in other words he became a citizen and a voter in that year. He was a corporal of the militia as early as 1642. In 1643 he was appointed one of the two pound keepers of the town. His pound, where he detained strayed cattle and hogs until the owners came to claim them, was on the east side of State Street, which in those days was called "Neck Lane" because it was the road leading to the neck of land between Mill and Quinnipiac rivers. A fee was charged for the release of each animal impounded. His dwelling house was on the north side of Chapel Street, between Church and State. He bought The Trust Company Corner in 1649, but when or whether he went to live there is difficult to tell.

He is not dignified by the title of "Mr." in the frequent references to him in the town records. He was a tailor by profession, but was also active in other fields, and we find that during the thirty-seven years between the first and the third grants of land to freemen, he increased his estate from £. 12 to £. 47. At various times he served the town as marshal (a sort of sheriff), townsman (alderman, we should say in these days), corporal of the militia, bellringer, sealer of weights and measures, and fence viewer (or highway surveyor). There is an unauthenticated tradition that Marshal Kimberley tried to arrest the

regicides, Whalley and Goffe (who later hid in "Judges' Cave," which was so named because they did hide there). The magistrates of New Haven had unwillingly issued a warrant for the arrest of Whalley and Goffe, who were being pursued by two king's officers sent down from Boston. Mr. William Jones, next door neighbor of Marshal Kimberley, son-in-law of Governor Eaton, and later deputy governor of the Colony, sheltered the regicides in his house on Elm Street. This shows how anxious the magistrates were to have the warrant served! Kimberley is said to have overtaken the regicides as they were escaping toward Neck Bridge. He tried to arrest them, but the fugitives were both skilled swordsmen, and although they were armed only with sticks, they defended themselves so dexterously that the doughty marshal was obliged to return to the town for aid. In the meanwhile, of course, the regicides escaped. If this is true, Kimberley need not, however, have been ashamed of his inability to cope with Whalley and Goffe, for while Kimberley was a follower of the peaceful trade of tailor, his opponents were said to be among the most skilled swordsmen in Europe or America.

Thomas Kimberley sold the southern part of his lot at Church and Elm Streets to Abraham Dickerman in 1668. This part fronted about two hundred seventy feet on Elm Street, and it extended on Church Street up to the northern boundary of the lot

THE UNION TRUST COMPANY

Occupied 1871-1911

Northeast Corner of Orange and Chapel Streets

owned until recently by Dr. Gustavus Eliot. In 1696 Kimberley sold another piece off the southern end of his home lot to Abraham Dickerman, and in 1697 he sold the remaining piece of the lot he had bought of Richard Perry to John Bassett.

The first owner of The Trust Company Corner was a gentleman adventurer. The second was a tailor, a pound keeper, and a holder of many minor posts in the municipal government. What sort of a man shall we find as the third owner?

Perhaps the most interesting, although not the most important fact about the third owner was that he kept a tavern at The Trust Company Corner. The taverns, or inns, of the New Haven Colony were not, however, the places where roistering young blades got drunk and fought duels, as historical novels have led people to regard taverns. It is true that liquors were served at the tavern, but its main purpose was to provide a stopping place, a hotel if you like, for the accommodation of the few travelers who passed that way. The records show that the youth of the town occasionally stepped over the bounds set on drinking, but the stern Puritan fathers did not let these lapses go unrebuked. Most of the travelers who came to New Haven had friends here with whom they could stay, but once in a while some stranger rode in on horseback from Stratford, or Hartford, or Boston (unless he came by boat), and it was deemed fitting that the town should afford a hostelry of some

sort. The selling of liquors was strictly limited by law, and disorderly conduct was punished by fines or by being put in the stocks. The first tavern keeper was John Harriman, who tried repeatedly to resign the position, and finally succeeded in 1671. He complained that it was difficult to procure the necessary provisions and that, moreover, he was obliged to accept payment in Indian wampum which other people were not willing to accept of him. The Colony did not issue any currency at that date, and English money was scarce; consequently Indian wampum was used to some extent, but most transactions were made by trading of goods. The ancient name for a tavern or inn was "the ordinary." In June of 1671 the following entry appears in the town records: "It was propounded about one to keep ye ordinary, & the towne was acquainted what endeavo^rs^ had been uſed with ſome about it ſince ye Last Towne-meeting, and in ye iſsue Abram Dickerman was by Vote appointed to keepe the ordinary in Newhaven, whoe declared that he ſhould accept it upon tryall." If a pun may be pardoned, he found it more of a trial than he expected. He tried repeatedly to resign the position, but without success until 1680, when we find the following entry in the town records: "Abraham Dickerman (as he had done formerly) did againe giue notice to ye Towne of his purpoſe to leaue of Keeping ye ordinary, and did not ſee a cours taken to ſetling of another in that worke, but did deſyer it might not bee

offenſiue if hee left it of, which he did intend to doe." Lieutenant Dickerman evidently made good his intention to "leaue of" keeping the inn, for later in the year the town appointed a committee "to provide a meet perſon to keep an ordinary, that the town be not deſtitute."

Abraham Dickerman came to New Haven from Massachusetts ten years before he bought The Trust Company Corner from Thomas Kimberley. He was a young married man at the time, having a wife and an infant child. From the date of his purchase of The Trust Company lot, he commenced to become a prominent man in the affairs of New Haven. He was chosen a townsman (a sort of alderman) in 1669, and was reappointed, with the exception of a single term, for eighteen consecutive years. He was chosen townsman annually, except on four occasions, for thirty-one years. In 1665 the New Haven Colony was forced to come under the jurisdiction of the Colony of Connecticut, and the town was represented in the General Assembly by deputies. Dickerman was chosen a deputy to the Connecticut General Assembly for twenty-one terms between 1683 and 1696. He was a member of various important committees, notably for directing the affairs of Wallingford when it was settled in 1670, for procuring a patent for the boundary lines of New Haven, and for drawing up legal grants of land to the new minister, the Rev. Mr. James Pierpont, who succeeded the

Rev. Mr. John Davenport. Dickerman was chosen lieutenant of the New Haven Trained Band, or militia, in 1683, and he is often referred to in the records as Lieutenant Dickerman. About 1696 he retired from public life, and at the time of his death in 1711 at the age of seventy-seven he was living on the lot north of the present Charles W. Scranton & Company lot (formerly owned by Dr. Gustavus Eliot). He left this property to his son, Abraham Dickerman, Jr., while he left to his son Isaac the corner lot, which included the lots now owned by The Union & New Haven Trust Company, the Yale Tire & Rubber Company, and the Charles W. Scranton & Company.

Space permits here only occasional side lights on the vast difference between life in New Haven in colonial days and now. The difference, of course, is great, but underneath it people are the same human beings. There were no automobiles in Abraham Dickerman's day, but there was the problem of the "speed-demon" then as now! Listen to the manner in which the city fathers dealt with this problem in 1663: "The Court Conſidering the great danger of rideing horſes ſoe faſt in ye towne, & y^t notwithſtanding all y^t had been ſpoke againſt it in Publike, perſons went on in ſuch a way: they did now order, That if any perſon or perſons were found rideing ſoe faſt within foure rod of the towne that they pay for the firſt time tranſgreſſing this order one ſhilling, for the ſecond two ſhillings, & for the third time five ſhil-

lings: & it was thus explained, y^t if it was faſter then a handgallop, it was a tranſgreſſion of this order." Doubtless the older people of that day exclaimed over the recklessness of youth, and wondered what "the younger generation" was coming to! Not only many entertaining side lights must be omitted here, but also many important events of New Haven history which do not come within the scope of this booklet. The reader is briefly reminded of these matters, however, in the *Chronological Table* of events of New Haven and of The Trust Company Corner, which occupies the latter pages of this book.

Early Relations With Yale College

ISAAC DICKERMAN, fourth owner of The Trust Company Corner, was a man of mark in his community. He began his public career as constable of New Haven in 1710. He was then thirty-two years old. Three years later he was made lieutenant of the Trained Band, and was made captain (the ranking officer) in 1722. He was chosen a townsman in 1712, and served a total of fifteen years in that office as follows: 1712-19, 1722-25, and 1730-32, each inclusive. He was appointed justice of the peace for New Haven in 1735, and was reappointed every year until his death in 1758, a period of twenty-four years. He was made a deputy to the Connecticut General Assembly (*i.e.*, representative in the state legislature) in 1718, and had a longer service in that office than any one before or since. There were usually two terms a year, and between 1718 and 1757 he served for fifty-nine terms. He was a member of a number of important committees. He was for many years a deacon of the First Church, and was in every way a conscientious and energetic public servant.

Captain Dickerman was the first of the owners of The Trust Company Corner to have relations with Yale College. When he entered public life in 1710, Yale had been in precarious existence at Saybrook for nine years. In 1716, when the negotiations for removing the college to New Haven were going on,

THE NEW HAVEN TRUST COMPANY

Quarters occupied before the merger in 1911

Number 40 Church Street

the town made "a grant of eight acres of land to the Collegiate School when and so long as the School shall be continued in New Haven." Dickerman was on the committee which made the transfer of this land on March 15, 1718. He was also among the number of New Haven citizens who made gifts of land totaling about forty acres for the support of the college. Dickerman gave two acres; Joseph Mix, who was to buy The Trust Company Corner of Dickerman in 1733, gave one acre; and John Mix, the father of Joseph, gave five acres. There were, of course, many other donors. In 1720 Captain Dickerman was on the committee of the First Church to "confer with the Trustees and Rector of Yale College about placing the scholars in the meeting-house."

But he had a still closer connection with the college—he repaired it! In 1736 an account of repairs to Yale College was presented by Isaac Dickerman and John Punderson to the Connecticut General Assembly, among whose records in the State Library at Hartford it is recorded. It is headed thus: "To the Honourable Generall assembly now sitting in Newhauen according to your desire we the subscribers haue done something to repare the Collage house in Newhauen and the fence belonging to it and hear foloweth an account of what mony we haue laid out." (At that time New Haven was co-capitol with Hartford, and the autumn sessions were held here.) In Dickerman's and Punderson's account appear such

items as "8 galons of oyle to colour the fence," "makeing the fence and colouring of it," "30 dayes work at the Colage to repare the roof and the sides, and to shingle the kitching," "making fine outward doors and hanging them," etc., etc. The quaint language and spelling were those of a day before dictionaries made spelling difficult. In the eighteenth century one could spell a word two ways on the same page without being corrected by his children.

Troubles in the Church Affect Owners of The Corner

ISAAC DICKERMAN sold his lot, which included The Trust Company Corner, to Joseph Mix in 1733. Joseph Mix was nearly fifty years old at the time of this purchase, and his son, Timothy Mix, had been married about two months before. In 1752 he deeded the property to his son Timothy as a gift, and the deed speaks of the property as the homestead "where my said son Timothy now Dwells." Moreover, the Wadsworth map of New Haven in 1748 shows "Tim. Mix, Physician" as living at The Trust Company Corner. Putting two and two together, it seems from the foregoing facts that Joseph Mix bought the property for his newly wedded son, who had just been graduated from Yale College and was commencing the practice of medicine in New Haven.

About the year 1735 people began to grumble about the preaching of the Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes, who was the pastor of the only church in New Haven,

the First Congregational Church. Its services were held in the little wooden meeting-house on the Green. Its pastor lived on the north side of Elm Street, next door to Joseph Mix. The dissatisfaction with the Rev. Mr. Noyes' preaching began as a result of the "Great Revival," of which the Rev. Mr. George Whitefield was the leading figure. This movement aroused controversy throughout New England. In 1741 the Rev. Mr. James Davenport, a follower of Whitefield and a Yale graduate, came to New Haven and preached a sermon in which he denounced the Rev. Mr. Noyes as an unconverted man and a hypocrite. Three months later some of the members attempted to secede from the First Church, claiming that the Rev. Mr. Noyes' sermons were "unprofitable," and that they differed from him in certain points of faith. What a hornet's nest of ill feeling this step aroused! The "Old Lights," as the conservative element in the church was called, were furious, while the "New Lights," or the dissenting element, were determined to make their point. Great excitement! Arguments! Religious arguments! The town in an uproar! The New Lights formed a separate church in 1742 under the name of the White Haven Society. The Old Lights maliciously invoked the law to continue to collect taxes from the New Lights for the support of the Rev. Mr. Noyes. The New Lights started building a new meeting-house at the southeast corner of Church and Elm Streets in 1744. The new church grew until its members could outvote

the Old Lights, and the Rev. Mr. Noyes had to go to law to collect his salary. Yale College set up a separate church for its students and refused all inducements to return to the First Church. And so things went.

What was the attitude of the owners of The Trust Company Corner during these times of strife? Isaac Dickerman, ex-owner, who had been a deacon of the First Church for about twenty years, resigned his office and joined the White Haven Society, of which he was promptly made a deacon. Joseph Mix, his son Timothy, and the members of their families joined the New Lights. Neighborly feeling at The Trust Company Corner was at a low ebb. The situation was very convenient for the Mixes, however, as their new meeting-house was right across the street from their house. But Joseph Mix did not live to see the end of the church controversy, for he died in 1757. In the following year the First Church settled the Rev. Mr. Chauncey Whittelsey, a Yale graduate, as co-pastor with the Rev. Mr. Noyes. The latter was then seventy years old, and took but little part in public affairs from that time until his death in 1761. By that time there were three churches in New Haven, for an Episcopal Church had been formed in 1755. Here, as elsewhere, the seeds of religious toleration began to be sown, and bitter, religious controversies were no more.

"Timothy Mix, Physician," at The Corner

IN some of the deeds among the land records of New Haven, Timothy Mix's father is spoken of as "Doctor" Joseph Mix. In others he is called "Lieutenant." It may therefore be safely concluded that he was a medical practitioner and also an officer of the militia. In 1736-37 he was a deputy to the Connecticut General Assembly for two terms. His son Timothy was born in New Haven in 1711 and was graduated from Yale College in 1731. The boy thought seriously of entering the ministry, but he finally chose to practice medicine with his father. He married Mary Cooper in 1733, and this couple probably took up their residence with Dr. Joseph Mix at The Trust Company Corner in that year. Land records show that there was a dwelling house on the premises, an "old barn," a stable, an orchard, and a garden.

What kind of doctors Joseph and Timothy Mix were can only be guessed. They probably rode their rounds on horseback. In their saddlebags were slung the simple drugs and primitive surgical instruments of their day. Elder, wormwood, and anise were not improbably among the remedies used,

> And Epsom salts and senna too, and hellebore and borax,
> And herbs and teas for stomach aches, the bowels and
> the thorax;
> And aloes for cathartics mild, and ipecac emetics,
> Peruvian bark in Holland Gin, for gentle diuretics.

It was a period when people did not think it strange to hope for good results from such a remedy as "snaykes boyled in milk." Prominent among the instruments employed was the lancet, for "bleeding" a patient in the literal sense was as common a practice then, as it is in the slang sense now. The doctor of that period was also the surgeon, the pharmacist, and the dentist. When called out at night he was obliged to ride his horse through unlighted streets, unless perhaps there were a few tin lanterns giving out the feeble gleam of tallow candles. Hardly any of the physicians were licensed practitioners, as there were only three medical schools in all America. Instead they served apprenticeships under local doctors, as Timothy Mix doubtless did under his father. It was not until 1784 that the New Haven County Medical Association was formed with the purpose of effecting improvements in the condition of the profession, especially to "prevent the world from the horrid Imposition of Quacks, Medicasters and Vain Pretenders, with which it is now infested." Dr. Timothy Mix was not among the physicians who formed this association, but he was then seventy-three years old and perhaps had retired from active practice. He was no longer living at The Trust Company Corner, as he had sold it in 1763 to his younger brother, Jonathan Mix, who in turn had sold it to Mr. Richard Woodhull.

THE UNION & NEW HAVEN
TRUST COMPANY

Occupied 1911-1928

Number 57 Church Street

The Trust Company Corner Houses a Tory

THE lot originally granted to Richard Perry had by this time been reduced in size so that the corner lot belonging to Richard Woodhull in 1765 included practically the present Trust Company and Charles W. Scranton & Company lots. On the northern boundary was the lot now occupied by the new office building of Edward M. Bradley & Company. On the eastern boundary was the present Yale Tire & Rubber Company lot, then owned by Mr. Timothy Jones, whose son Isaac built the red brick house which is still standing on the property. The house has had a one story, yellow brick front added to it.

When Richard Woodhull went to live at The Trust Company Corner in 1765, the days of the rule of England over the Thirteen Colonies were drawing to a close. Woodhull had been graduated from Yale College in 1752, and from 1756 to 1761 he was a tutor at Yale. In 1762 he married a New Haven girl and was also admitted to the New Haven Bar. Instead of practicing law, however, he was persuaded to resume the tutorship at Yale, where he was greatly valued for his knowledge of mathematics and of the sciences. But hardly had he returned to Yale when he became a convert to the Sandemanian religious sect. Robert Sandeman was a Scotchman who had founded this new sect. He had come to Danbury, Connecticut, where he had made a number of con-

verts. Among the peculiarities of his principles were Sunday "love feasts," the ceremony of washing the feet, and abstinence from shedding the blood of man or beast. A few New Haven people were converted, and Woodhull was among them. On this account President Clapp of Yale felt obliged to dismiss Woodhull from his connection with the college, and did so in 1765. This was the year in which Woodhull bought The Trust Company Corner.

Great events were in the making. New Haven was excited over the Stamp Act. James Watt, over in England, had just perfected the steam engine. Benedict Arnold had come to New Haven and had set up a shop as a druggist and bookseller (the sign that hung in front of his shop may be seen at the New Haven Colony Historical Society, on Grove Street). Arnold was chosen captain of the Second Company of Foot Guards, and Richard Woodhull, from the porch of his dwelling on The Trust Company Corner, must have watched him with disfavor as Arnold drilled his troops on the Green. It was from the New Haven Green that Arnold marched, with about forty volunteers, to his career, first of glory and then of shame, in the American Revolution. But Woodhull was not among the volunteers; he was a loyalist, a supporter of King George, a "Tory."

Mr. Woodhull chose a rather poor town in which to be a Tory. New Haven had been a fairly strong Whig town ever since King Charles II had issued a

charter to Connecticut which included jurisdiction over the New Haven Colony. In 1775 the more ardent Tories were warned to leave the town. Richard Woodhull was one of a group of Tories who were forced to sign a paper saying they favored the Revolution. In 1777 they signed another paper, admitting that their signatures to the first one were extorted by fear and that they were still loyal to the king. But they promised not to take active part against the Revolutionists, so they were allowed to remain in New Haven. In the meanwhile Richard Woodhull's brother Nathaniel was distinguishing himself as a general in the Continental Army. In 1779 the British invaded New Haven from Long Island Sound. In spite of a spirited resistance by the citizens, the town was captured and plundered. In a day or two the militia of the surrounding country began to assemble in force, so the British hastily re-embarked and sailed away. Apparently Richard Woodhull conducted himself with discretion during the invasion, for afterwards he continued to live peaceably at The Trust Company Corner. In fact he dwelt there until his death in 1797. From 1782 to 1785 he taught the Hopkins Grammar School, so it is evident that he had not forfeited the regard of his fellow townsmen by either his attitude or his conduct during the Revolution. At his death he was survived by his fourth wife and by his only daughter (by his first wife). His daughter had married a Yale graduate named

Jehu Brainerd, and The Trust Company Corner came next into the possession of this couple. During their ownership the nineteenth century was ushered in, the history of which remarkable period begins in the following section of this narrative.

Beginning of Age of Remarkable Inventions

THIS history now enters on its final phase—an era of almost incredible invention, development, and progress. Eli Whitney had invented the cotton gin in 1793, and after being cheated out of his patent rights, had come back to New Haven, where he established a gunshop in Whitneyville. In this shop he was the first American to introduce successfully the principle of standardized, interchangeable parts, the method of manufacture by which Henry Ford was able to organize his vast industry. Eli Whitney is known almost exclusively by his invention of the cotton gin, but the use of the principle of standardized parts has had as great an influence, if not a greater, on the industrial development of America as his famous invention. In 1807 the first thoroughly successful steamboat, Fulton's *Clermont*, sailed up the Hudson River in thirty-two hours. The first steamboat to visit New Haven was the *Fulton*, which came here from New York in 1815. The first successful steam locomotive, Stephenson's *Rocket*, was tested in England in 1829. In 1830 the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad began running the *Tom Thumb*, the first American steam driven locomotive to be put into practical use. The first railroad train to be used from New Haven ran to Meriden in 1839; the line was extended to Hartford in 1840. In 1833 the *Royal William* was

the first real steamer, independent of sails, to cross the Atlantic, from Quebec to London. In 1836 Samuel F. B. Morse, a Yale graduate whose wife and children lived in New Haven, made the first successful test of his great invention, the telegraph. He patented it in 1837; the U.S. Congress appropriated money for the first line, from Washington to Baltimore, in 1843; and the first message was sent over this line in 1844. In 1839 Charles Goodyear, who was born in New Haven, discovered the process of vulcanizing rubber. In 1845 Richard Hoe invented the rotary printing press, which made the modern newspaper possible. In 1848 the house of Professor Benjamin Silliman, Jr., on Hillhouse Avenue, was the first in New Haven to be lighted by illuminating gas. In 1858 the first cable message was sent across the Atlantic Ocean. In 1859 the Seneca Oil Company, established by James M. Townsend, of New Haven, struck the first petroleum oil gusher in the United States, in Pennsylvania. The first transcontinental railroad was built in 1869. Remington began manufacturing typewriters in 1873. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876, and in the same year the steam turbine engine was introduced. The first commercial telephone in New Haven was installed in 1878, with six subscribers! In that same year arc lights were introduced, and Thomas A. Edison took out his first patent on the phonograph. In the next year Edison succeeded in making an incandescent

electric lamp. In 1882 Edison installed in New York City the first central power system of electricity. In 1883 the first successful electric light company in New Haven was started. The first city electric railway system was installed at Richmond, Virginia, in 1887. In the next year George Eastman introduced the Kodak. The Wright brothers made the first successful aeroplane flight in 1903. Henry Ford introduced his "Model T" automobile in 1908. The first radio message across the Atlantic Ocean was sent in 1915. In 1927 commercial wireless telephone service was inaugurated between New York City and London, England.

This resume of invention and progress brings out better than anything else could, the kind of era upon which The Trust Company Corner was now to enter.

The Corner is Divided into Several Lots

HITHERTO not more than two men at a time had owned The Trust Company Corner, but by 1816 we find it divided among three owners, and by 1838 among four. For this reason, and because the ownership of the various lots changed more frequently than in the eighteenth century, it becomes more difficult to follow the changes in ownership.

It is probable that Jehu Brainerd and his wife, who owned The Corner in 1800, never lived there, for the former owned a house and a huge lot on Grove Street. The Corner went into the possession of a Colo-

nel Prentice in 1809, but was sold two years later to Thaddeus Beecher, Jr. This lot did not include the whole of the present Trust Company property, as the eastern extremity belonged to Isaac Jones. Thaddeus Beecher, Sr., kept a store at the northeast corner of Church and Chapel Streets, where the Exchange Building now stands. He set out the beautiful "Benjamin Franklin Elm," which used to stand about where the Bennett Memorial Fountain now stands. Within the memory of a number of New Haveners, the whipping post once stood near this spot. It is said that Jerry Allen, an eccentric poet and school teacher, brought the tree in from Hamden on his back, and that Mr. Beecher traded him a pint of rum and a few other trifling articles for the tree. Mr. Beecher planted the tree at the southeast corner of the Green on April 17, 1790, the day of Benjamin Franklin's death, from which circumstance the name of the tree was taken. It became one of the largest and most beautiful of the many fine elms which then graced the Green, but it has now gone the way of the old town pump which used to stand in its shade. Thaddeus Beecher, Jr., was the first to establish the present northern boundary of The Trust Company Corner. This was done in 1816, when he sold to Leman Hall a part of his property fronting one hundred eighteen feet on Church Street and forty-seven feet on Elm Street. He himself retained the lots to the east and north, and his own

dwelling house was on the lot to the north (the present Charles W. Scranton & Company lot). Thaddeus Beecher, Jr., died in 1822, leaving his estate to his wife. She died in the following year, and it was divided among a number of heirs. At this time The Trust Company Corner was divided into three lots.

Commercial Enterprises at The Corner

BEFORE buying part of The Trust Company Corner from Thaddeus Beecher, Jr., Leman Hall leased it in 1812 for four years with option to buy. The description of the lot in the lease mentions "the building and store thereon." The store was probably a meat market and grocery, and was probably built by Thaddeus Beecher, Jr. Later deeds mention a "Wooden Store house." This was not a storehouse in the modern sense of the term, but a combined residence and store, the latter probably on the ground floor, with dwelling rooms upstairs. In 1836 the store, but not the land, that had belonged to Leman Hall was owned by Smith & Ives, who were partners in a grocery business. Later the firm became Smith & Austin, who still owned the store but not the land. In 1813 there was also a store at the eastern end of The Trust Company Corner, on Algernon S. Jones' land, but by 1838 this had been replaced by a three story brick house. As Algernon Jones was an apothecary, it is natural to assume that his store was a drug store.

In 1840 the first New Haven City Directory was published. In the directory of 1845 is found the following entry: "Abner Austin, grocer, c Church and Elm." In the next year the entry is "Austin & Gilbert, grocery and meat, 48 Elm c Church." Many New Haven people now living will remember Austin & Gilbert's grocery store at The Trust Company Corner, while some may recall having seen the figure of old Abner Austin as he went to his place of business with a black shawl wrapped about his shoulders. Mr. Austin was first a partner of Joseph Smith (formerly of Smith & Ives) in the grocery business. Smith, Austin & Company leased a part of The Trust Company Corner of Freeman C. Bassett, and it was at that corner that they had their market. They owned the wooden store and leased the land. The lease ran out in 1844, but they still owned the store. Freeman C. Bassett had sold the land to Elijah Gilbert, Jr., in 1843, and Smith, Austin & Company sold the store to him in 1845. Mr. Austin had married Esther Gilbert, sister of Elijah Gilbert, Jr., and in 1848 he bought of Mr. Gilbert a half interest in the latter's Trust Company Corner property. These two men at that time established a partnership in the grocery business which continued at The Trust Company Corner for the rest of their lives. Their association in this enterprise lasted about thirty-six years. During all this time The Trust Company Corner was divided up into four separate lots. At the corner was

the grocery store, while the other three lots were occupied by residences. Austin & Gilbert bought these lots one by one, beginning at the corner, until in 1882 they owned the whole of the present Trust Company land. They did not enlarge their store, however, but rented the residences. Abner Austin died in 1884; his partner, Elijah Gilbert, Jr., died in 1888. In 1889 the heirs of these two lifelong friends and business associates sold the whole Trust Company Corner to the firm of Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company.

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The New Haven city directories show that Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company did not occupy any part of The Trust Company Corner. This firm conducted a prosperous, wholesale meat and cold storage business at Long Wharf. In 1889 they rented the old Austin & Gilbert store to Robert H. Nesbit, who, like his predecessors, ran a grocery store and meat market there. The R. H. Nesbit Company was the last occupant of the old frame building which served faithfully, even if it did not ornament, the corner of Church and Elm Streets. When it was torn down in 1910 to make way for the office building of The Security Insurance Company of New Haven, its passing marked the end of the period of small commercial enterprises at The Trust Company Corner. The day of big business had arrived.

Some Notes on the Residence-Owners

THROUGHOUT almost the whole of the nineteenth century, about one quarter of The Trust Company Corner was given over to the commercial pursuits just described. The other three quarters of the property were occupied by residences—one residence to each quarter. Without attempting to give a detailed story of the residence-owners, let us venture upon thumb-nail sketches of some of these people.

There was Algernon S. Jones, the apothecary—a Yale graduate in the Class of 1807. He was the youngest of four brothers, all of whom were graduated from Yale College. After graduation he became an apothecary in New Haven, and when his father, Isaac Jones, died insolvent in 1812, Algernon bought his father's homestead at public auction. This included the eastern end of The Trust Company property. He removed to Huntington, Conn., probably about 1830, and later settled in Williamsburg, a suburb of New York City, where he died in 1858 at the age of sixty-two. His father was also a Yale man, and they were direct descendants of William Jones, deputy governor of Connecticut.

Algernon Jones was the first to establish the present eastern boundary of The Trust Company Corner. The lot he bought of his father's estate fronted one hundred thirty-five feet on Elm Street; thirty feet of this was at the eastern end of the present Trust

Company land, while the other one hundred five feet was the frontage of the present Yale Tire & Rubber Company lot. Mr. Jones sold the one hundred five foot frontage to William Hawley in 1813, and retained the other thirty foot frontage for himself. At this period Eli Whitney, the famous inventor, owned the lot adjoining William Hawley's; that is, the lot at the corner of Orange and Elm Streets where Bullard's furniture store now stands. Mr. Whitney built a mansion there, in which he intended to live, but his death before its completion prevented his occupying it.

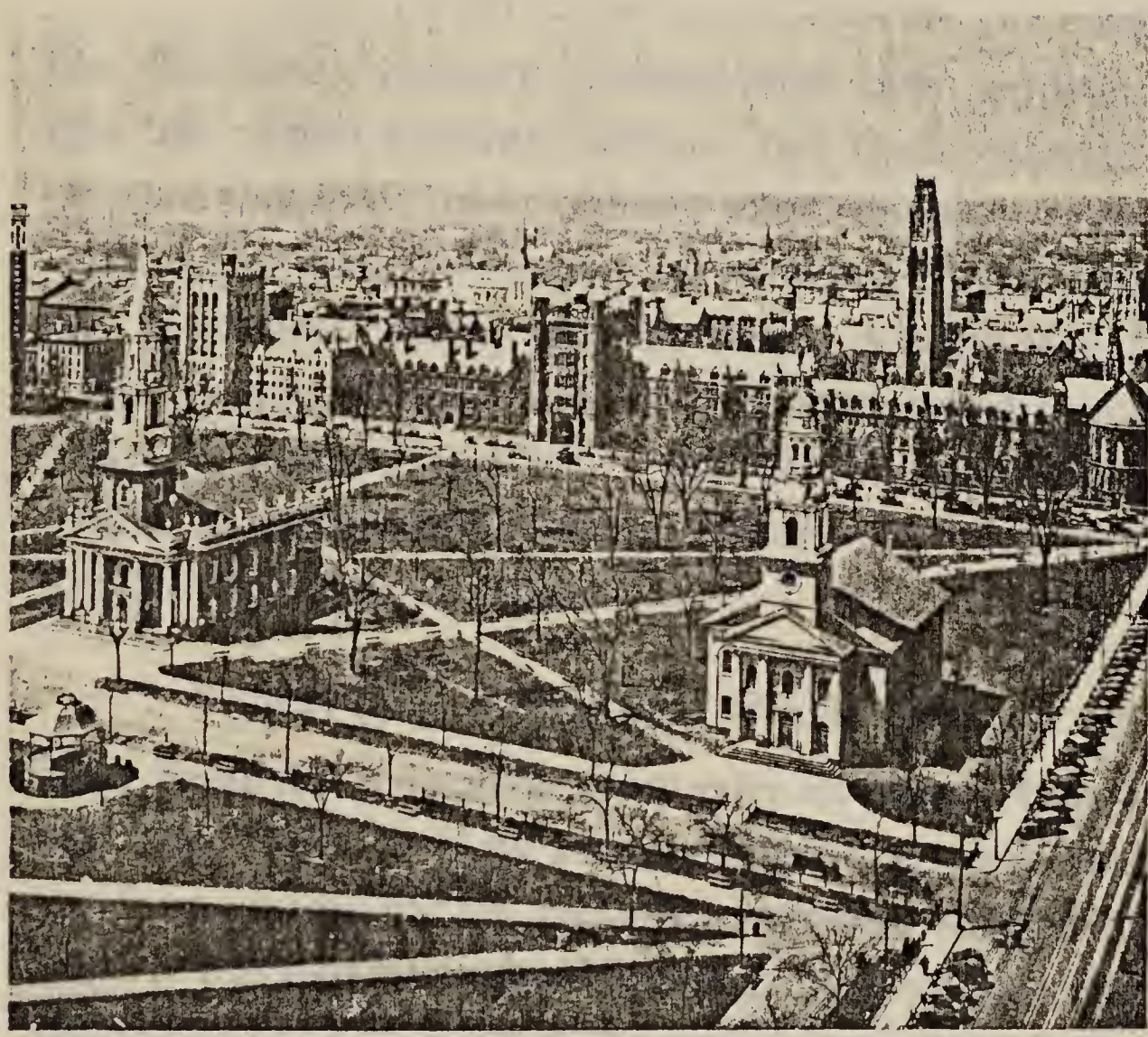
In the 1840's there was the grocery store at the corner of Church and Elm Streets. Next east came the lot owned by Abraham Bradley, Jr., who rented the residence on it to a Mrs. Kerr. He was a "merchant," according to the city directory, and lived at 101 State Street. His son Leonard, lived there with him, and after his death in 1845 Leonard Bradley continued to live there as late as 1857. The third lot was owned by Mrs. Nathan Smith. She was the widow of the Hon. Nathan Smith, a United States senator who in 1816 built the house designed by David Hoadley, long known as "the Edwards house." She must not be confused with another Mrs. Nathan Smith who lived on Wall Street and was the widow of Dr. Nathan Smith. At the eastern end of The Trust Company Corner was the residence of Edward Hawley, a colored laborer, and his wife Harriet, and

his father-in-law, Thomas Hills. The numbering of the houses on Elm Street has been twice changed since those days. In the 1840's, Freeman Bassett's store was No. 48, Abraham Bradley's house was No. 50, Mrs. Nathan Smith's house was No. 52, and Edward Hawley's house was No. 54. In 1862 the numbers of these houses were changed to 49 (at the corner), 45, 43, and 41 respectively. In 1915 they were changed again to 115 (at the corner), 105, 101, and 95 respectively.

In 1846 Alfred Blackman became an owner of part of The Trust Company Corner. He had been judge of probate in Waterbury, Conn., in 1842, and had also been elected to the state senate in that year. He became widely and honorably known in legal and political circles in New Haven. He was mayor of New Haven in 1855, but declined renomination the following year.

Also in 1855, he was the first Democrat since 1833 elected representative to the state legislature. He was prominent among the practicing lawyers of this city until 1869, when he retired from active life on account of ill health. He owned and lived on the lot north of The Trust Company Corner. When he died in 1880, after a long illness, he left this property to his widow and left his lot on The Trust Company property to his son.

Such were some of the people who shared in the ownership of The Trust Company Corner during



THE NEW HAVEN GREEN
1928
Looking West from the Tower of
The Union & New Haven Trust Company Building
Corner of Church and Elm Streets

the nineteenth century. Others have been omitted, lest the recital become tedious, but those who are curious about the other owners may consult a typewritten pamphlet presented to the New Haven Colony Historical Society by The Union & New Haven Trust Company. In this pamphlet is included much material about The Corner and its owners which would be useful for historical reference but would be too detailed to have a place here.

Beginning of a New Era at The Corner

THE Security Insurance Company of New Haven, like The Union & New Haven Trust Company, laid the foundations for its growth in modest surroundings. It was established in New Haven in 1841 under the name of The Mutual Security Insurance Company. Joseph N. Clarke was chosen president at the first directors' meeting at 13 Exchange Building in 1844. In 1845 a room was rented "on State Street, in the second story of Timothy Dwight's Building," where business was transacted until 1860, when the office of the company was moved to the Lyon Building on Chapel Street. In 1887 the company erected at 37 Center Street its first home office building. In 1910 the company erected a handsome, brick office building at The Trust Company Corner on the spot where Austin & Gilbert, and later R. H. Nesbit, had for so long a time plied the grocery trade. It must be admitted that the new order of things

worked a pleasing change in the appearance of The Corner. In 1919 and 1920 The Security Insurance Company bought of Dr. Max Mailhouse and of Dr. Henry H. Smith respectively, the two lots adjoining its own property on Elm Street. The Security Insurance Company sold all this property to The Union & New Haven Trust Company in November, 1925, and removed to a large and handsome office building at 175 Whitney Avenue, which will doubtless be its home for many years to come.

During the period of part ownership of The Trust Company Corner by The Security Insurance Company, it is curious to note that the residential part of The Corner was a sort of medical center. The late Dr. Benjamin H. Cheney had his house and office for a number of years at 45 Elm Street. Dr. Max Mailhouse next had his house and office at the same address. Dr. Henry H. Smith had his house and office next door, at 43 Elm Street (later known as 101 Elm Street), as late as 1920. And north of The Trust Company Corner was the house and office of Dr. Gustavus Eliot, sold in 1928 to Charles W. Scranton & Company. East of The Corner was formerly the house and office of Dr. C. Purdy Lindsley.

The Trust Company Corner Today

THE northeast corner of Church and Elm Streets is now the site of the new twelve story bank and office building of The Union & New Haven Trust Com-

pany. This company has existed under its present name only since 1911, when a combination of The Union Trust Company and The New Haven Trust Company was effected.

The Union Trust Company was incorporated in May, 1868, under the name of The Union Trust & Safe Deposit Company. The original subscribers to its capital stock were Henry Hotchkiss, Cornelius S. Bushnell, Edward S. Scranton, Sereno H. Scranton, William B. Bristol, William M. White, William T. Bartlett, and Louis H. Bristol. In 1870 the name was changed to The Union Trust Company. Henry Hotchkiss was elected the first president on October 3, 1871. At the same meeting of the trustees Edward S. Scranton was elected vice-president and William T. Bartlett secretary and treasurer. Henry Hotchkiss died two months later, and Louis H. Bristol served as chairman of trustees until the election, May 2, 1876, of Henry L. Hotchkiss as president. The company declared its first dividend (one of five per cent) on January 18, 1875, and its second (one of four per cent) on July 6 of the same year. The company transacted its business in the old Palladium Building at 139 Orange Street until the acquisition, October 18, 1871, of the property at the corner of Orange and Chapel Streets.

The New Haven Trust Company was chartered on March 14, 1895, under the name of The Trust & Safe Deposit Company. The original subscribers

to its capital stock were T. Attwater Barnes, Pierce N. Welch, Henry F. English, Benjamin R. English, Max Adler, Morris F. Tyler, Joseph Porter, and Thomas Hooker. On September 17, 1895, Samuel A. Galpin was elected as an additional member of the board of trustees, and the first election of officers took place. T. Attwater Barnes was elected president, Thomas Hooker vice-president, and Fred B. Bunnell secretary and treasurer. In 1897 the following additional members were elected to the board of trustees: Eli Whitney, Henry C. White, William R. Tyler, Charles S. Mersick, Samuel E. Merwin, and Elliott H. Morse. In this same year the name of the firm was changed to The New Haven Trust Company. Its first dividend (one of one per cent) was declared on January 10, 1899. The original business quarters of the company were in Room 302 at 42 Church Street. T. Attwater Barnes died in January, 1902, and was succeeded in the presidency by Thomas Hooker. On March 2, 1903, W. Perry Curtiss was elected a trustee and also vice-president and treasurer. In July of the same year, the company leased the premises at 40 Church Street which had been remodeled for banking purposes.

The Union & New Haven Trust Company began its career in 1911 in a newly constructed building at 57 Church Street. The company was under the presidency of Eli Whitney with W. Perry Curtiss as active vice-president and treasurer. In 1923, the build-

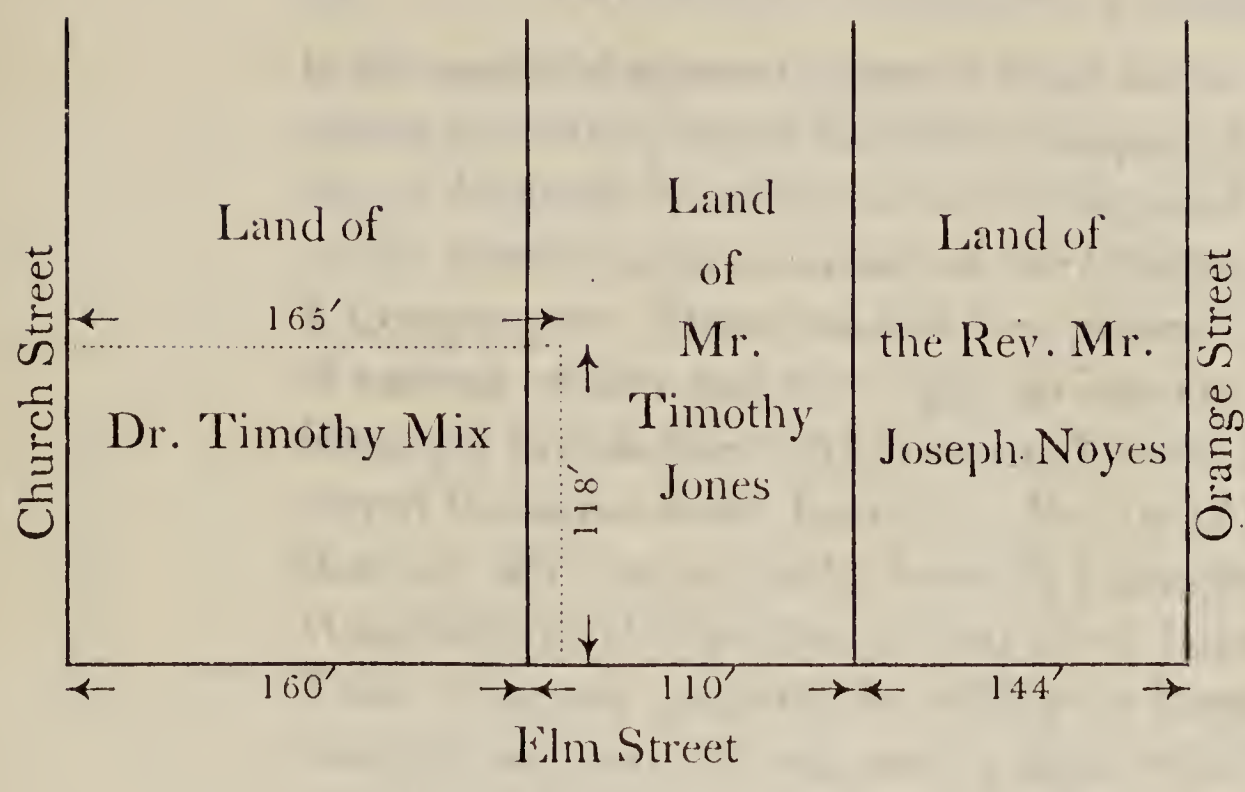
ing at 57 Church Street having become inadequate in point of size, property adjoining on the north was purchased and additional quarters were provided. Trust funds increased to over $66,000,000 and with increases in all departments, the banking quarters of the company again became inadequate. In November, 1925, under the presidency of W. Perry Curtiss, who had been elected in January, 1918, the purchase was made of the property at the corner of Church and Elm Streets which belonged to The Security Insurance Company of New Haven. In the following spring operations were begun for the erection of the new Trust Company Building, which was completed in the spring of 1928.

This building is a modern "skyscraper," but not of the conventional square or rectangular type. It was designed by the architects, Cross & Cross of New York, after a long study of the corner on which it was to stand, in the corner's relation to the Green and to the character and design of the buildings surrounding and facing the Green. The gold-covered dome of The Trust Company building gleams two hundred twenty-five feet above the street, yet the tower of which it is a part is of pure colonial design. In fact, wherever the needs of a modern office building have permitted, characteristic features of colonial architecture have been employed. Even the brick of the new building is strikingly similar in color to that of the old colonial Center Church on

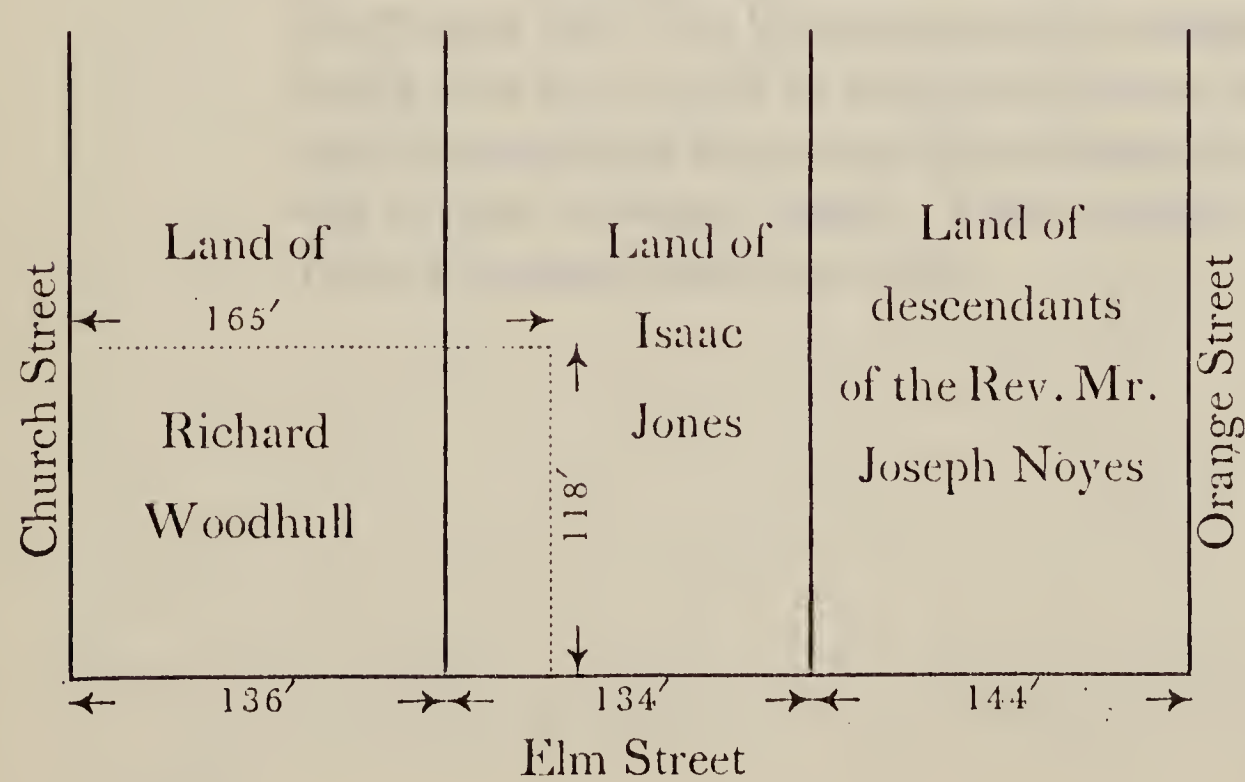
the Green. Such refinements of appropriateness did not occur by chance, but were the result of careful and imaginative planning.

Explanatory Diagrams

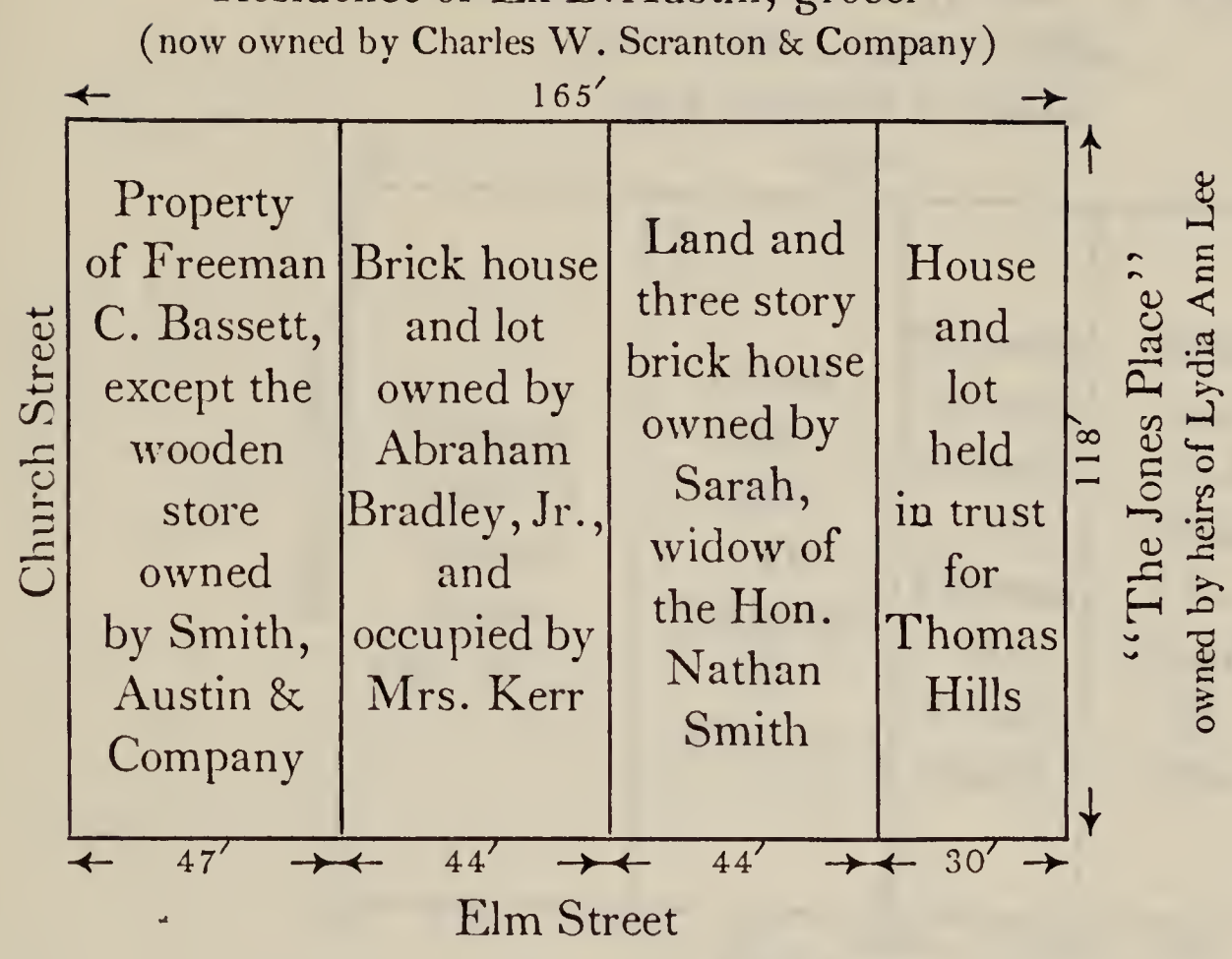
THE Trust Company Corner was part of the land originally granted by the town of New Haven to Mr. Richard Perry. Mr. Perry's lot fronted about two hundred seventy feet on Elm Street (the combined present frontages of The Trust Company and the Yale Tire Company), while it fronted considerably more than that on Church Street, perhaps extending as far up as Wall Street. Mr. Perry sold this lot to Thomas Kimberley. The latter sold to Abraham Dickerman a part of this lot, bounded west and south by Church and Elm Streets, and bounded north by the present north boundary of the Charles W. Scranton property, and east by the present east boundary of the Yale Tire Company. Abraham Dickerman willed this lot to his son Isaac, who sold it to Dr. Joseph Mix. The latter gave it to his son Dr. Timothy Mix, who sold part of it to Timothy Jones. The following diagram shows the relation of The Trust Company property (outlined in dotted lines) to the holdings of Timothy Mix and Timothy Jones in 1755. Orange Street, which is shown in the diagram for the sake of clearness, did not exist at that period, not being cut through until 1784.



Timothy Mix sold his land to Jonathan Mix, who sold it to Richard Woodhull. Timothy Jones gave his lot to his son Isaac. In 1776 Isaac Jones bought twenty-four feet on Elm Street off the east side of Richard Woodhull's lot. The new boundaries resulting from this purchase are shown in the following diagram.

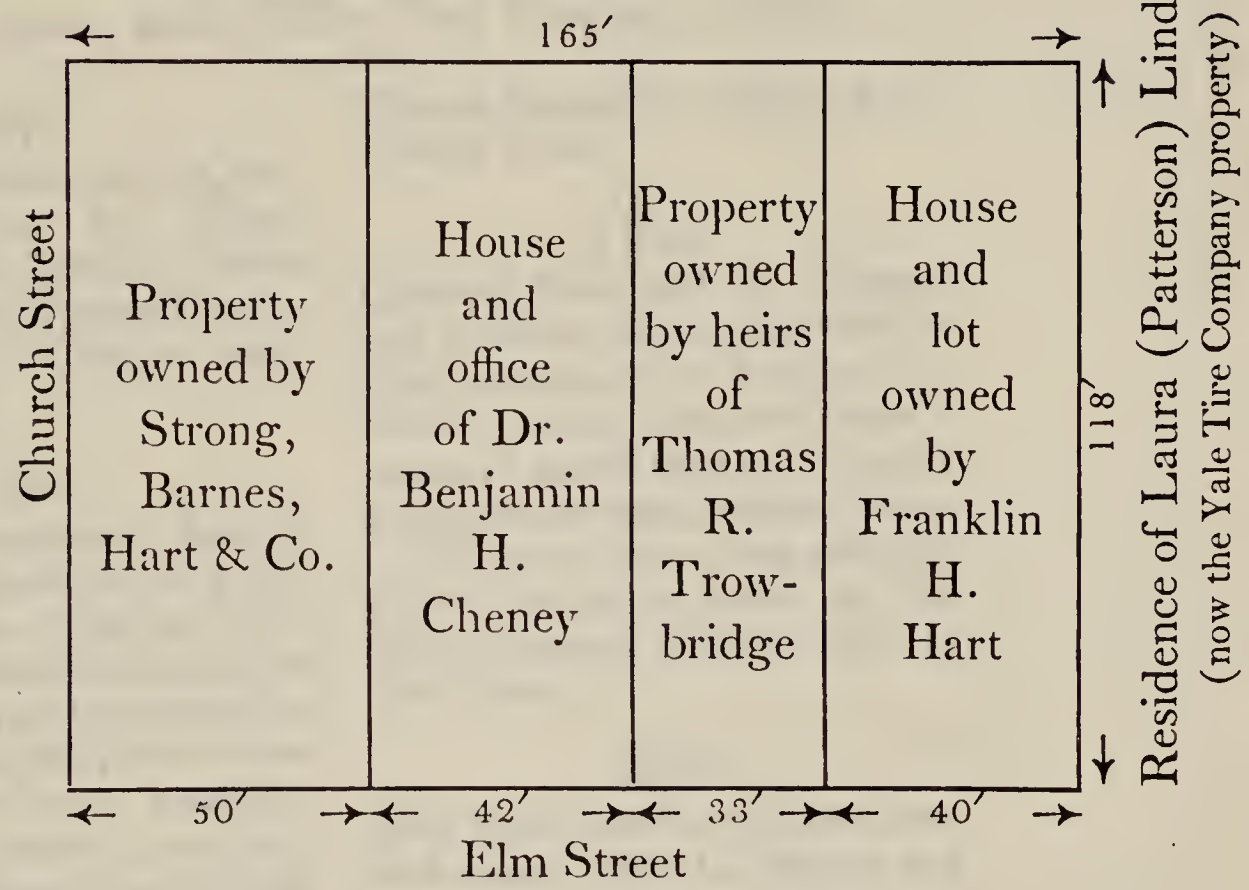


In the second diagram the part of Isaac Jones' lot east of the dotted line is the present Yale Tire Company lot. His lot and that of Richard Woodhull were still bounded on the north by the present north boundary of the Charles W. Scranton & Company lot. These two lots then passed into the hands of various owners and were split up into lots with smaller frontages on Elm Street. All these smaller lots, however, preserved the same north boundary. But in 1816 Thaddeus Beecher, who owned the lot formerly belonging to Richard Woodhull, established the present north boundary of The Trust Company property by selling to Leman Hall a lot bounded on the north and east by land which Beecher retained, and fronting one hundred eighteen feet on Church Street and forty-seven feet on Elm Street. Thaddeus Beecher retained the present Charles W. Scranton & Company lot and also the two lots shown in the following diagram as belonging to Abraham Bradley and Mrs. Sarah Smith. *Note that in the following diagram the scale of the drawing is changed.* Instead of showing the Elm Street frontage to Orange Street, it shows the frontage only to the beginning of the present Yale Tire Company lot, then owned by heirs of Lydia Ann Lee. It will be noticed, of course, that the various lots comprising the present Trust Company property had still further changed hands. This diagram shows The Trust Company Corner in 1838.



FREEMAN C. BASSETT's lot passed through several hands, becoming in 1848 the property of Abner Austin and Elijah Gilbert, Jr., who started a grocery store there under the name of Austin & Gilbert. One by one, this firm bought the three other lots comprising the present Trust Company lot. In 1882 Austin & Gilbert owned the whole of the present Trust Company property. They kept a market at The Corner and rented the houses on the other three lots. In 1889, Austin and Gilbert both having died, the whole property was bought by Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company. This firm rented the grocery store at The Corner and sold the other three lots, although with slightly different boundary lines. The following diagram shows The Trust Company Corner in 1889.

House and office owned by Mary A. Eliot,
wife of Dr. Gustavus Eliot,
and occupied by them



THE four lots shown in the above diagram then passed through various ownerships. In 1908 The Security Insurance Company of New Haven bought the corner lot, and in 1919 and 1920 respectively bought the two lots adjoining on the east. These holdings were sold to The Union & New Haven Trust Company in November, 1925. Franklin H. Hart, who owned the fourth lot to the east, had died in 1906, and his wife died in 1925. The lot was bought of his wife's estate in 1926 by The Trust Company. On the site thus acquired, The Trust Company has erected its new twelve story bank and office building.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

1638-1928

Sundry Events in the Histories of the United States, of New Haven, and of The Trust Company Corner.

1638

Colonists sailed from Boston for Quinnipiac, March 30... Mr. Davenport's first sermon, April 15... Treaty with Momauguin and others, November 24... Ezekiel Cheever began teaching school.

1639

Fundamental Agreement formed, June 4... Mr. Eaton chosen governor, October 25... Nepaupuck, Pequot chieftain, executed for murder and head set on pole in market-place ... Thomas Kimberley, later to own Trust Company Corner, admitted a freeman and admitted to the court, November 3... Eleazar, son of Thomas Kimberley, baptized (said to have been first child born of English parents in Quinnipiac.)

1640

Town given name of New Haven... Trust Company Corner granted to Richard Perry... Lot adjoining on east granted to Governor Eaton... Lot adjoining on north granted to Captain Nathaniel Turner.

1642

Troubles with Dutch and with Indians... Colony orders free school set up... Richard Malbon, father-in-law of Richard Perry, admitted member of the court, February... Malbon chosen a deputy to assist New Haven magistrates... Malbon made military head of Colony during Captain Turner's absence at Delaware Bay... Thomas Kimberley a corporal in the Trained Band.

1643

Governor Eaton and Mr. Gregson sent to Boston as commissioners to Confederation of New England Colonies... The Dutch ask New Haven's assistance against Indians... Thomas Kimberley appointed a pound keeper . . . Thomas Mix, whose grandson Joseph, became an owner of The Trust Company Corner, came to New Haven.

1644

New Haven aids Fairfield and Stamford against Indians... Malbon and others commissioned to dig boat channel up to State Street.

1645

John Cooper, father-in-law of Abraham Dickerman, third owner of Trust Company Corner, admitted a freeman.

1646

Richard Perry appointed secretary of the court . . . Governor Eaton's mother sold her lot on Grove Street to Richard Perry... Malbon appointed a magistrate of the general court ... Malbon made captain in place of Nathaniel Turner, who was to sail on the *Great Shippe*.

1647

Great Shippe, with Captain Turner and other prominent men aboard,

sailed on important trading voyage to London, but was never heard of again.

1649

Richard Perry sold The Trust Company Corner to Thomas Kimberley.

1650

Commissioners of United Colonies met in New Haven...Canada asked for aid against Six Nations...Richard Perry returned to England.

1653

Dutch and Indians caused alarm... Connecticut and New Haven "provided a frigate of ten or twelve guns, with forty men, to defend the coast from the Dutch."

1655

Governor Eaton compiled code of laws for New Haven.

1656

Governor Eaton's code of laws printed at London...general court ordered troop of sixteen horses to be raised in five towns on coast.

1657

Governor Eaton died, aged sixty-seven. His will divided lands among his children, Theophilus Eaton of Dublin, Ireland; Mary, wife of Valentine Hill; and Hannah, who later married Mr. William Jones...Governor Hopkins died in London, leaving bequest for grammar school in New Haven.

1658

Mr. Newman chosen governor of New Haven Colony.

1659

Theophilus Eaton of Dublin conveyed to his sister, Hannah, all his real estate in New England. Hannah Eaton, in view of approaching marriage to William Jones, conveyed to him all her real estate in New England.

1660

Charles II crowned King of England.

1661

Mr. Leete chosen governor of New Haven Colony . . . The regicides, Whalley and Goffe, former generals in Cromwell's army, hid from the king's officers in the house of Mr. William Jones, next door to Trust Company Corner, April 30.

1662

William Jones took oath of fidelity, was admitted a freeman, and was chosen a magistrate of the court, May 23 and 28.

1664

The Rev. Mr. Nicholas Street began teaching Hopkins Grammar School.

1665

New Haven came reluctantly under jurisdiction of Colony of Connecticut.

1668

The Rev. Mr. Davenport moved to Boston...Thomas Kimberley sold the south corner of his lot at the northeast corner of Church and Elm Streets to Abraham Dickerman...The Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes, who later owned property east of Trust Company Corner, born in Stonington, Conn.

1670

Mr. Davenport died in Boston, March 11, aged seventy-three... Wallingford set off as separate town.

1671

Abraham Dickerman appointed to keep the "ordinary," or inn and tavern, and accepted appointment on trial, June 26...Isaac Jones, whose father, William, owned land adjoining Trust Company Corner, and whose grandson, Timothy, later owned part of Trust Company Corner itself, was born in New Haven.

1674

Abraham Dickerman and John Cooper on committee to lay out Wallingford boundaries.

1675

New Haven fortified in fear of Indians in King Philip's War...Abraham Dickerman tried second time to resign from keeping the town tavern.

1677

Townspeople taxed for church expenses instead of the church being supported as theretofore by voluntary contributions.

1680

Abraham Dickerman tried again to resign keeping the "ordinary."

1683

Abraham Dickerman chosen lieutenant of New Haven Trained Band. Dickerman chosen a deputy to the general court and reappointed twenty-one terms, 1683-1696.

1684

William Jones entered in town records a five acre lot of land, bounded east by Samuel Eaton and west by Abraham Dickerman...Joseph Mix, later an owner of Trust Company Corner, born to John and Elizabeth Mix.

1685

The Rev. Mr. James Pierpont ordained pastor, July 2... Abraham Dickerman and another appointed to lay out land for the Rev. Mr. Pierpont...Branford set off as separate town.

1689

William and Mary acceded to throne of England...Colonel John Dixwell, regicide, died in New Haven, aged eighty-one.

1690

Hannah Ball, who later married Joseph Mix, born January 12...From 1690 to 1793, and perhaps longer, the home lot originally granted to Samuel Eaton was owned by members of Bishop family.

1696

Thomas Kimberley sold to Abraham Dickerman the southern half of his home lot, bounded west by Church Street, south by land of Dickerman, and north by remaining part of Kimberley's home lot...Thomas Kimberley entered in town records an earmark for his cattle, April 24.

1697

Thomas Kimberley sold to John Bassett remaining part of his home lot (original grant to Richard Perry), bounded west by Church Street, south by land of Abraham Dickerman, and north by land of Sergeant John Cooper...Abraham Dicker-

man, in failing health, withdrew from active public life...William Jones and Andrew Morrison mortgaged a piece of land and the house on it where Morrison then lived, bounded east by Samuel Bishop and west by a cartway which was probably the beginning of Orange Street.

1700

Abraham Bradley, later part owner of Trust Company Corner, appointed a deputy to the general court and reappointed twelve terms, 1700-1710.

1701

Yale College received charter and was founded at Saybrook, Conn.

1702

Queen Anne set on throne of England.

1710

The Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes licensed to preach in New London, but instead became a tutor of Yale College, 1710-1715...Isaac Dickerman, son of Lieutenant Abraham and later owner of Trust Company Corner, appointed constable at age of thirty-two.

1711

Abraham Dickerman died. His will gave his son Abraham the house the latter then lived in, the land bounded west by Church Street, south by land of Isaac Dickerman, and north by land of John Bassett. The Trust Company Corner he had apparently given previously to his son Isaac, although no deed is recorded...John Jones sold to Samuel Cooke, schoolmaster, the lot on Elm Street adjoining Isaac Dickerman's lot on east.

1712

Isaac Dickerman chosen townsman and served through 1719...Samuel Cooke chosen a deputy to the General Assembly and served six terms thereafter.

1713

Isaac Dickerman made ensign (lieutenant) of the militia.

1714

George I acceded to throne of England.

1716

"The Collegiate School" (Yale College) removed from Saybrook to New Haven...Samuel Cooke, who had removed to Stratfield, Conn., sold to the Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes the Elm Street lot east of Isaac Dickerman's corner lot...The Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes married Abigail, daughter of the deceased Rev. Mr. James Pierpont... Mr. Noyes ordained temporary pastor of First Church of New Haven.

1718

Legislature of Colony of Connecticut met in New Haven for first time ...Yale College building completed; name of Yale given to the college; first public commencement held... Isaac Dickerman chosen deputy to the General Assembly and served fifty-nine terms, 1718-1757...Isaac Dickerman and Joseph Mix among those who contributed land for the support of Yale College.

1720

Isaac Dickerman on a committee of the Ecclesiastical Society to confer with trustees and rector of Yale

about seating the scholars in the meeting-house on Sundays...Samuel Mix, father of Richard Woodhull's first wife, Rebecca, was graduated from Yale.

1722

Isaac Dickerman chosen captain of the militia; chosen townsman again; twice appointed on committees of the General Assembly to see that acts of Assembly were truly entered on the records.

1723

Elm Street mentioned in a deed as the "King's Highway."

1724

Estimated population of New Haven, 1000; houses, 163...Jonathan Edwards, Sr., became tutor of Yale College and served through 1726.

1725

George II acceded to throne of England.

1727

Isaac Dickerman chosen deacon of First Church; appointed to standing committee to order affairs of Ecclesiastical Society and re-elected annually, except in 1737, until his death.

1732

Timothy Mix, son of Joseph, declined pastorship in town now called Redding...Isaac Dickerman on committee to locate Kensington meeting-house...The Rev. Mr. James Davenport was graduated from Yale.

1733

Captain Isaac Dickerman sold Trust Company Corner to Lieutenant Joseph Mix...Timothy Mix, son of Lieutenant Joseph, married Mary Cooper; began practice of medicine in New Haven.

1735

Isaac Dickerman chosen justice of the peace and served 1735-1758... Isaac Jones, son of Deputy Governor William, married as second wife Mrs. Abigail Chatterton...Many people dissatisfied with preaching of the Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes...John Noyes, son of the Rev. Mr. Joseph, born in New Haven.

1736

Isaac Dickerman and John Punderson repaired the Yale College building...Isaac Dickerman, Jr., was graduated from Yale...Lieutenant Joseph Mix chosen deputy to General Assembly and served two terms.

1739

Isaac Dickerman was moderator of the meeting of the First Church and filled this office about thirteen times thereafter...Isaac Dickerman, Jr., received M.A. at Yale and began teaching Hopkins Grammar School.

1740

Timothy Mix, Jr., son of Dr. Timothy, born in New Haven...Isaac Dickerman on committee to advise on petition for new ecclesiastical society in district since named Oxford ...Isaac Dickerman, Jr., died... Whitefield, religious revivalist, made first visit to New Haven.

1741

The Rev. Mr. James Davenport, imitator of Whitefield, preached in

New Haven and denounced the Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes.

1742

Separate church formed in New Haven...Joseph, Timothy, Jonathan, and John Mix among those who separated from First Church to help form new White Haven Society.

1744

Building of White Haven Church begun on southeast corner of Church and Elm Streets, opposite Trust Company Corner where Dr. Joseph Mix lived.

1745

The Rev. Mr. George Whitefield on second visit to New Haven preached to large congregation assembled on Green in front of Mr. Pierpont's house.

1746

Princeton University founded at Elizabeth, N.J., as "College of New Jersey."

1748

Lieutenant Abraham Dickerman, Jr., died in New Haven, leaving to his son Joseph, the house in which he lived, north of present Charles W. Scranton & Company lot, which latter was part of Dr. Joseph Mix's corner lot.

1751

Joseph Dickerman sold to Asa Morris the house and lot (north of present Scranton & Company lot on Church Street) which he had inherited from his father.

1752

Lieutenant Joseph Mix gave to his son, Dr. Timothy Mix, The Trust Company Corner...Benjamin Franklin made his famous kite experiment ...Asa Morris sold to Ebenezer Lines the lot north of Dr. Timothy Mix's corner lot...The Rev. Mr. Richard Woodhull was graduated from Yale.

1753

Yale students withdrawn from the Rev. Mr. Noyes' church and required to attend services in the College Hall...John Noyes, son of the Rev. Mr. Joseph, was graduated from Yale.

1754

Franklin's "Albany Plan of Union" proposed to Thirteen Colonies... The Rev. Mr. John Noyes became rector of Hopkins Grammar School and served through 1757... Isaac Dickerman resigned as deacon of First Church and joined White Haven Church, of which he was deacon until his death.

1755

Dr. Timothy Mix sold eastern part of Trust Company Corner (Elm Street front) to Timothy Alling, who sold it two months later to Timothy Jones, Sr., son of Isaac and grandson of Deputy Governor William Jones ...First newspaper printed in New Haven...First book printed in New Haven ("Laws of Yale College" in Latin; Yale Library has a copy.) First Episcopal Church formed... First professor of divinity appointed at Yale.

1756

Yale refused to return its students to the Rev. Mr. Noyes' church...Rich-

ard Woodhull appointed tutor of Yale College and served through 1761... The Rev. Mr. John Noyes licensed to preach...Beginning of French and Indian War.

1758

Ebenezer Lines sold to Captain Samuel Barnes the lot north of Dr. Timothy Mix's corner lot on Church Street.

1760

George III acceded to throne of England.

1761

The Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes, for forty-five years pastor of First Church and next door neighbor of owners of Trust Company Corner, died in his house on Elm Street, aged seventy-three...Mary (Cooper) Mix, wife of Dr. Timothy Mix, died in New Haven, aged forty-six.

1762

Captain Samuel Barnes sold to his brother Nathaniel the lot north of present Scranton lot on Church Street...On Christmas Day, Mrs. Abigail Noyes, widow of the Rev. Mr. Joseph, set free two negro slaves, Jack and Sabina, who had been willed to her by her husband...Richard Woodhull married Rebecca Abigail Mix; Woodhull admitted to New Haven Bar.

1763

Dr. Timothy Mix sold to his son Jonathan that part of Trust Company Corner which he had not sold to Timothy Alling...Nathaniel Barnes sold to Stephen Mansfield and Enos Alling the lot north of present Scranton lot on Church Street... Richard Woodhull recalled to tutorship at Yale...End of French and Indian War.

1765

Jonathan Mix sold the part of Trust Company Corner he had bought from his father to Richard Woodhull (Timothy Jones still owned the eastern end of the Elm Street frontage at this time)...Isaac Jones built on his father's Elm Street property the red brick house still standing there and now occupied by Yale Tire & Rubber Company...Richard Woodhull obliged to resign Yale tutorship on account of his conversion to Sandemanian doctrines...Watt, in England, perfected the steam engine...Great excitement in America over the Stamp Act.

1766

Richard Woodhull married Rebecca Carr, of Boston, his second wife... New Haven swept by a "tornado."

1768

Timothy Jones gave to his son, Isaac Jones, in view of the latter's marriage to Elizabeth Trowbridge, that part of Trust Company Corner (on Elm Street, east of corner lot belonging to Woodhull) which he had bought of Timothy Alling.

1769

Dartmouth College founded by Yale men... Stephen Mansfield and Enos Alling sold to White Haven Society the lot north of present Scranton lot on Church Street.

1770

Isaac Jones, son of Timothy and grandson of Isaac, married a second

wife, Lucy, daughter of Charles Goodrich, of Pittsfield, Mass.

1772

"Laws of Yale College" published in English.

1774

Isaac Jones, son of Timothy and grandson of Isaac, married as his third wife Sybil, daughter of Colonel John Benjamin, of Stratford, Conn.

1775

Battle of Lexington...Benedict Arnold led volunteers of Governor's Guards from New Haven Green to join Revolutionary forces at Cambridge, Mass...Richard Woodhull signed paper professing to favor Revolution.

1776

Declaration of Independence...Richard Woodhull sold a strip twenty-four feet wide of the Elm Street frontage of Trust Company Corner to his neighbor Isaac Jones.

1777

Richard Woodhull signed a paper confessing he was still loyal to King George.

1779

New Haven invaded and plundered by the British.

1780

Hard winter; snow four feet deep throughout New England...Richard Woodhull married as his third wife Susanna, daughter of Samuel Cooke, of New Haven.

1781

The Duke de Lauzun passed through New Haven with his Legion of 600 men.

1782

Richard Woodhull appointed teacher of Hopkins Grammar School and served through 1785.

1783

End of American Revolution...Jehu Brainerd, later owner of Trust Company Corner, was graduated from Yale...Jonathan Edwards, Jr. bought of White Haven Church the lot north of present Scranton lot.

1784

Connecticut legislature made New Haven a city..."Oringe" Street cut through property of heirs of the Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes...Woodbridge set off as separate township.

1785

East Haven set off as separate township.

1786

Hamden and North Haven set off as separate townships.

1787

Wall Street laid out from State to College Streets...Pierpont Edwards chosen member of old Continental Congress.

1789

A division of estate of the Rev. Mr. John Noyes, son of the Rev. Mr. Joseph, gave two-thirds of the home lot to Joseph Noyes, son of the Rev. Mr. John, and one-third to other heirs...George Washington visited New Haven.

1790

First census of United States.

1792

Isaac Jones, Jr., brother of Algernon S. Jones, was graduated from Yale... Eli Whitney, inventor of cotton gin, was graduated in same class.

1793

Whitney invented the cotton gin... By a partition between the heirs of the Rev. Mr. John Noyes, full possession of the home lot on Elm Street went to Joseph Noyes, of Fairfield, Conn.

1795

Jonathan Edwards, Jr., dismissed from pastorship of White Haven Church; he sold his house (north of present Scranton lot on Church Street) to Simeon Baldwin...The Rev. Mr. Joseph Noyes of Fairfield sold the lot at the northwest corner of Orange and Elm Streets (bounded east on Elm by lot of Isaac Jones) to Pierpont Edwards.

1796

The city appropriated $200 to destroy barberry bushes...William H. Jones, son of Isaac and grandson of Timothy Jones, was graduated from Yale...Pierpont Edwards sold to Daniel Barnes the lot at corner of Orange and Elm Streets which he had bought in 1795 from Joseph Noyes.

1797

Richard Woodhull died in his house on Trust Company Corner.

1798

Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton gin, established gunshops at Whitneyville, Conn., where he was the first to introduce successfully the principle of standardized parts which has revolutionized the industry...Will of Richard Woodhull probated; Abigail, wife of Jehu Brainerd, named as only child and heir.

1800

Total tonnage of shipping in port of New Haven was 11,011...Charles Goodyear, inventor of the process of vulcanizing rubber, born in New Haven...At this period Whitney Avenue was called the "Hartford and New Haven Turnpike Road" (see "Land Records," vol. 134, p. 293).

1801

Dorcas Woodhull, widow of Richard, sold to her son-in-law, Jehu Brainerd, her dower right in the land formerly owned by her husband.

1803

Abigail (Woodhull) Brainerd conveyed to her husband, Jehu Brainerd, all the interest in the Trust Company Corner which she had inherited from her father, Richard Woodhull.

1806

Eli Whitney, inventor of cotton gin, bought lot east of Isaac Jones at corner of Elm and Orange Streets.

1807

First successful steamboat, Robert Fulton's *Clermont*, sailed up the Hudson in thirty-two hours...Alfred Blackman, later to own part of Trust Company Corner, born in Newtown, Conn...Algernon S. Jones, youngest son of Isaac and Sybil Jones, later to own part of Trust Company Corner,

was graduated from Yale, and became an apothecary in New Haven.

1809

Jehu Brainerd sold to Amie Prentice, wife of Colonel Jonas Prentice, the part of Trust Company Corner that had formerly belonged to Richard Woodhull.

1810

Samuel F. B. Morse, the inventor of the telegraph, was graduated from Yale.

1811

Colonel Jonas Prentice and his wife sold to Thaddeus Beecher part of Trust Company Corner.

1812

Isaac Jones, son of Timothy and Jane (Harris) Jones and owner of part of Trust Company Corner, died in New Haven...His son, Algernon S. Jones, married Frances Jennys in Hartford, Conn...Thaddeus Beecher leased part of his Trust Company Corner holdings to Leman Hall with option to buy...Beginning of War of 1812.

1813

Sybil Jones sold to her son Algernon S. Jones her dower right in the part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by her husband, Isaac Jones ...Algernon S. Jones bought at public auction on the premises the part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by his father, and also bought of his brother, William H. Jones, a store that stood on the west corner of the property...He then sold the eastern part of the property to William Hawley. (This was present Yale Tire Company lot.)

1815

Jehu Brainerd, formerly owner of part of Trust Company Corner, died in New Haven...First steamboat to visit New Haven, the *Fulton*, caused great excitement.

1816

Thaddeus Beecher sold to Leman Hall the part of Trust Company Corner he had leased to him in 1812. (This sale established for first time the north boundary of present Trust Company Corner.)

1817

New Haven Grays first marched on Green.

1821

Leman Hall sold to Jared Bradley, Abraham Bradley, Jr., George I. Whiting, and Timothy Bishop part of Trust Company Corner.

1822

Thaddeus Beecher, owner of part of Trust Company Corner, died in New Haven...Orange was set off as separate township...At this period Prospect Street was called "Second Quarter Road" ("Land Records," vol. 69, p.413).

1823

Distribution of Thaddeus Beecher estate gave his widow, Maria, the lot north of Trust Company Corner and also part of Trust Company Corner...Maria, widow of Thaddeus Beecher, died in New Haven in December, and the estate was redistributed among a number of heirs.

1824

Benjamin Beecher bought of heirs of

Thaddeus Beecher the part of Trust Company Corner that had formerly belonged to Thaddeus...He sold it eleven days later to Abraham Bradley, Jr...Administrator of estate of David Tomlinson sold lot east of Trust Company Corner to Philip S. Galpin and his wife Ann...Jared Bradley bought out the interests of the three others who with him had bought part of Trust Company Corner from Leman Hall...General Lafayette visited New Haven.

1826

Simeon Baldwin elected mayor of New Haven...Abner Austin, later to own part of Trust Company Corner, came to New Haven and became laboratory assistant to Professor Benjamin Silliman of Yale.

1829

First steam engine, Stephenson's *Rocket*, was successful in England... Distribution of estate of Jared Bradley gave to his daughters, Harriet W. and Grace C. Bradley, one-fifth of the part of Trust Company Corner formerly belonging to Leman Hall, and gave the other four-fifths to his son, Jared Bradley, Jr.

1830

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad began running the *Tom Thumb*, first American steam driven locomotive put in practical use.

1831

Establishment of an African college in New Haven rejected.

1832

Benjamin Beecher bought of various heirs of Thaddeus Beecher estate the part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by Thaddeus... Lydia Ann Lee bought of Philip S. Galpin and his wife the lot east of Trust Company Corner on Elm Street.

1833

Royal William, first steamer not carrying sails to cross Atlantic, crossed from Quebec to London...Distribution of estate of Jared Bradley, Jr., gave to his sisters, Harriet W. and Grace C. Bradley, his four-fifths interest in the part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by Leman Hall...President Jackson visited New Haven.

1834

George Sweetland sold to Eli B. Austin and Harry Crosswell, in trust for Thomas Hills, eastern extremity of Trust Company Corner.

1835

Grace C. Bradley conveyed to her sister; Harriet W. Bradley, in exchange for other real estate, her interest in part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by Leman Hall...In view of her marriage to George Robinson, Harriet W. Bradley conveyed this property to Eben Thompson in trust for her separate use.

1836

First telegraph successfully tested by S. F. B. Morse...Eben Thompson sold to George and Harriet (Bradley) Robinson, who sold again on same day to Eli B. Austin, the part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by Leman Hall.

1837

Year of great national financial panic...Telegraph invention patented.

1838

Eli B. Austin sold to Freeman C. Bassett part of Trust Company Corner...Abraham Bradley, Jr., sold to Sarah, widow of Hon. Nathan Smith, the eastern half of his part of Trust Company Corner.

1839

Charles Goodyear, born and buried in New Haven, discovered process of vulcanizing rubber...Railroad to Meriden operated; first railroad from New Haven...Benjamin Beecher sold to Eli B. Austin lot north of Trust Company Corner.

1840

Railroad to Hartford opened...First "New Haven City Directory" published...Freeman C. Bassett sold half of his part of Trust Company Corner to Joseph Smith, of Smith, Austin & Company...Eli B. Austin and Harry Crosswell conveyed to Thomas Hills the part of Trust Company Corner they held in trust for him...At this period the four lots on Trust Company Corner were numbered as follows: Freeman C. Bassett, 48 Elm Street; Abraham Bradley, Jr., occupied by Mrs. Kerr, 50 Elm Street; Mrs. Nathan Smith, 52 Elm Street; and Thomas Hills, 54 Elm Street.

1841

Thomas Hills sold to Levi Ives, in trust for Edward and Harriet Hawley, his part of Trust Company Corner.

1842

Eli B. Austin died in New Haven, leaving lot north of Trust Company Corner to his wife, Grace Maria Austin...Alfred Blackman appointed judge of probate in Waterbury, Conn., and elected to state senate.

1843

U.S. Congress appropriated money for first telegraph line in world, from Washington to Baltimore... Freeman C. Bassett and Joseph Smith sold to Elijah Gilbert, Jr., part of Trust Company Corner.

1844

Washington-Baltimore telegraph line completed and successful...Levi Ives conveyed to Edward and Harriet Hawley part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by Thomas Hills.

1845

Smith, Austin & Company sold to Elijah Gilbert, Jr., a wooden store which stood on his part of Trust Company Corner...Abraham Bradley, Jr., died in New Haven, leaving part of Trust Company Corner to his son Leonard.

1846

Grace Maria, widow of Eli B. Austin, sold to Alfred Blackman lot north of Trust Company Corner...Abner Austin and Elijah Gilbert, Jr. started a grocery and meat market on part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by Freeman C. Bassett.

1847

New York, New Haven railroad was begun.

1848

First railroad train, New Haven to New York, ran. Elijah Gilbert, Jr., sold to Abner Austin one-half interest in part of Trust Company Corner on which they ran grocery store.

1849

Band of "Forty-Niners" sailed from New Haven for California... Edward Hawley sold to Alfred Blackman part of Trust Company Corner... Mrs. Nathan Smith died, leaving her part of Trust Company Corner divided among eight heirs... Carrington and Hotchkiss started publishing the *Journal and Courier*.

1850

Leonard Bradley sold to Austin & Gilbert the part of Trust Company Corner he had inherited from his father, Abraham.

1852

Louis Kossuth, the great Hungarian governor and liberator, spoke in New Haven... Alfred Blackman was appointed clerk of U.S. District Court... Heirs of Mrs. Nathan Smith sold part of Trust Company Corner formerly owned by her to Austin & Gilbert... Heirs of Lydia Ann Lee sold to Charles L. Chaplain lot east of Trust Company Corner.

1856

Band of Connecticut Abolitionists, among them Franklin H. Hart, emigrated from New Haven to Kansas, armed with Bibles and rifles.

1858

First cable message sent across Atlantic Ocean.

1860

"Pony Express" established, Missouri to California, ten or twelve days; stage coach sixty days... Beginning of Civil War.

1865

End of Civil War.

1872

Horace H. Strong, Herbert Barnes, and Franklin H. Hart formed a partnership in the wholesale provision business under name of Strong, Barnes, Hart & Co., this firm later to own whole of Trust Company Corner.

1876

Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone and tested it successfully.

1878

First commercial telephone exchange in this country installed in New Haven with six subscribers... Thomas A. Edison patented the first phonograph.

1880

Alfred Blackman left to his son, Charles S. Blackman, part of Trust Company Corner, and to his wife, Abby Beers Blackman, the lot north of Trust Company Corner.

1882

Charles S. Blackman sold to Austin & Gilbert the eastern extremity of Trust Company Corner, by which

purchase they owned the whole property.

1884

Abner Austin, of Austin & Gilbert, died in New Haven, leaving to his daughter, Sarah E. Austin, his half interest in Trust Company Corner.

1889

Administrator of Elijah Gilbert, Jr. estate sold his half interest in Trust Company Corner to Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company and this firm bought the other half interest of Sarah E. Austin on the same day...Later the firm sold 45 Elm Street to Dr. Benjamin H. Cheney, 43 Elm Street to heirs of Thomas Trowbridge, and 41 Elm Street to Franklin H. Hart...Note that the numbering of houses on Elm Street had been changed.

1893

Horace H. Strong died in New Haven, leaving to his wife and two daughters the part of Trust Company Corner in which he had an interest as member of firm of Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company. Firm continued under same name and bought out interest of heirs of Horace Strong.

1901

Charles H. Trowbridge, having been made sole trustee for heirs of Thomas Trowbridge, sold their part of Trust Company Corner, then known as 43 Elm Street, to Dr. Henry H. Smith.

1906

Benjamin H. Cheney sold to Celia (Katz) Mailhouse, wife of Dr. Max Mailhouse, part of Trust Company Corner then known as 45 Elm Street...Franklin H. Hart left to his wife and son the part of Trust Company Corner in which he had an interest as member of Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company...Firm continued under same name and bought out interest of heirs of Franklin Hart...Mr. Hart also left to his wife, Adaline (Jackson) Hart, the eastern extremity of Trust Company Corner, then known as 41 Elm Street.

1908

Strong, Barnes, Hart & Company sold to Security Insurance Company of New Haven part of Trust Company Corner...Mrs. Celia K. Mailhouse sold to Security Insurance Company a strip fronting nine and one-half inches on Elm Street from the west side of her property at 45 Elm Street.

1919

Dr. Max Mailhouse sold to Security Insurance Company part of Trust Company Corner then known as 105 Elm Street.

1920

Dr. Henry H. Smith sold to Security Insurance Company part of Trust Company Corner then known as 101 Elm Street.

1925

Security Insurance Company of New Haven sold to The Union & New Haven Trust Company the property comprising 101, 105, and 115 Elm Street.

1926

The Union & New Haven Trust

Company, purchased the Hart property known as 95 Elm Street.

1927

The Union & New Haven Trust Company commenced building at the northeast corner of Church and Elm Streets its new twelve story bank and office building... The architects, Cross & Cross, of New York, made use of features of colonial style so far as was possible in view of the size and height of the building.

1928

The Union & New Haven Trust Company completed its building.